

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 MMS-01 PER-01 ABF-01 PM-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0706

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2468

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, APR, AR

SUBJECT: STAFF REDUCTIONS

REF: STATE 078952

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFERENCED MESSAGE CONCERNING TEMPORARY REDUCTION OF MILGP PERSONNEL, FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PROPOSED LETTER TO BE PRESENTED IN PERSON BY AMBASSADOR AND COMUSMILGP TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE ADOLFO MARIO SAVINO, GOA: QUOTE DEAR MR. MINISTER: I HAVE THE PLEASURE OF ADDRESSING MYSELF TO YOU FOR THE PURPOSE OF FURNISHING INFORMATION ON EMBASSY PERSONNEL MANNING. SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED ARE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE US MILITARY GROUP.

FOR REASON OF PERSONNEL SECURITY, PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH PROVIDING SECURITY AND ATTENDANT COSTS, IT IS NECESSARY TO TEMPORARILY REDUCE THE NUMBER OF US PERSONNEL ASSIGNED THE MILITARY GROUP. THIS REDUCTION IS TEMPORARY IN NATURE AND IS IN CONSONANCE WITH REDUCTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE IN OTHER AREAS OF THE EMBASSY. REDUCTIONS HAVE BEEN MADE SOLELY FOR REASONS OF SECURITY.

A REDUCTION IS PRESENTLY PROGRAMMED TO TEMPORARILY VACATE SEVEN ADDITIONAL POSITIONS. ONE OF THE POSITIONS PROPOSED WOULD BE FROM THE MILITARY GROUP HEADQUARTERS. IT IS AN ADMINISTRATIVE, NON-ACCREDITED POSITION AND IS NOT COVERED BY AGREEMENTS IN EFFECT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERN-
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MENTS. THE ADDITIONAL SIX POSITIONS TO BE VACATED ARE

FROM EACH OF THE SERVICE SECTIONS -- ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE. CHANGES/REDUCTIONS IN ACCREDITED POSITIONS (BY AGREEMENT, COPIES OF WHICH ARE ATTACHED FOR CONVENIENT REFERENCE) WOULD BE LEFT TO THE THREE ARGENTINE SERVICES TO IDENTIFY POSITIONS, AS MUTUALLY AGREEABLE, WHICH COULD BE VACATED TO ACHIEVE DESIRED REDUCTION. IT IS EMPHASIZED THAT THIS IS NOT AN ELIMINATION OF POSITIONS BUT SOLELY A TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN PERSONNEL ASSIGNED. ACTION AS APPROPRIATE ON THIS MATTER WILL BE TAKEN TO COORDINATE DESIRES OF THE THREE ARGENTINE SERVICES.

IT IS REGRETTED THAT A REDUCTION IN PERSONNEL HAS BEEN NECESSARY. YOU HAVE MY ASSURANCE THAT WITH REMAINING PERSONNEL, MAXIMUM EFFORT WILL CONTINUE TO BE GIVEN TO ENSURE BEST POSSIBLE COORDINATE SUPPORT TO THE ARGENTINE ARMED FORCES. ALSO BE ASSURED THAT THIS MATTER WILL REMAIN UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW AND REASSESSMENT FOR REMANNING AT THE EARLIEST POINT OF TIME.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GREET YOU WITH DISTINGUISHED CONSIDERATION. SINCERELY, ROBERT C. HILL, AMBASSADOR. UNQUOTE

2. DUE TO THE EXISTENCE OF MISSION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS, DESIRE TO PRESENT ABOVE LETTER DURING DISCUSSION INFORMING MOD OF PERSONNEL REDUCTION. SUBSEQUENT THERETO, MEETINGS WILL BE HELD WITH HC SERVICE CINCS TO COORDINATE AND MUTUALLY DETERMINE WHICH POSITIONS WILL BE TEMPORARILY VACATED.
HILL

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